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such great vicissitudes from a thousand Accidents,  
that Diseases which are always so much influenced  
by ~~these~~ these circumstances, put on different  
Appearances in almost every Age & Country.  
I would not pretend to say that the Disease <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ is  
designed as the Subject of the following pages was  
entirely unknown to the Ancients. Some of them  
have dropped a few Hints which give us Reason  
to suppose they were acquainted <sup>th</sup> ~~with~~ it; but what  
they have said tends so little to explain the  
Cause, ~~to~~ or to point out a rational Method of  
curing the Disease, that we should receive but  
little Assistance from <sup>copying</sup> ~~compiling~~ their Sentiments  
upon this Subject.

Among modern Authors this Disease  
is distinguished by the name of the Bilious or



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Yellow Fever. Some have pretended to point out  
a Difference between these two Fevers, & to prove  
that they depend upon Contagious specifically  
different. But I hope we shall be able to  
show hereafter that they are both one, and  
the same Disease, & that their Difference con-  
sists in their Degree Only. — I shall therefore  
in the following Dissertation consider them  
as One Disease & treat them as such. a  
skillful Physician will always know how to vary  
his Method of Cure according to the greater or lesser  
violence of the Disorder.

we shall begin by describing the most ordinary  
Phenomena which occur in the Course of the  
Disease.

It generally appears About the middle of Summer







4  
or Beginning of Autumn, & ceases to rage  
upon the Approach of Winter. As soon as a  
Patient is seized with the Disease he immediately  
feels a Prostration of Strength - great Anxiety - in-  
tense pain in <sup>the</sup> Head - Coldness & Shivering.  
These Symptoms are quickly succeeded by great heat -  
a burning sensation about the Praecordia - a  
dry - reddish - florid or black Tongue - a hoarse  
shrill voice - immense Thirst especially for  
cold subacid Drinks. - The Lips & Teeth are  
covered with a black kind of Cordes. The Respira-  
tion is difficult & laborious. The Urine has  
various Appearances. Sometimes red - black  
& in many Cases bloody. The Pulse in the  
Beginning is full & tense, but after a while



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becomes small - weak & irregular. The Patient  
 complains of a bitter Taste in his Mouth -  
 tosses himself in his Bed from side to side without  
 being able to rest long in any Posture. he feels  
 a violent fixed pain about the Praecordia  
 which is always increased upon being pressed.  
 - The whole Hypochondriac Region <sup>sometimes</sup> is swelled &  
 hard. The Patient nauseates Food, & vomits  
 up every thing he takes together with large  
 Quantities of green, & sometimes blackish  
 Bile resembling Coffee-Grounds. The Eyes  
 are inflamed - of a yellowish colour. & often  
 suffused with Blood. The Bowels are sometimes  
 bound & sometimes Open. The Face & whole



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**SECRET**



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Skin are tinged of a yellow colour which in  
Progress of the Disease is changed to a livid  
Grey. black Spots begin to make their appearance  
About the Neck & Breast. the Blood is now poured  
forth in a thin dissolved state from the Nose  
Mouth, & urinary passages, & is sometimes  
~~black & bloody~~ ejected in vomiting mixed with black bile; the  
~~hands & feet~~ Hands & Feet now begin to grow cold. a Delirium  
comes On, & sometimes a Syncope. <sup>Limbs</sup>  
begin to tremble. the Patient now feels no  
Pain, & sometimes on a sudden recovers  
from his Delirium. But at Once he is seized  
with a Subultus Tendinum or <sup>Convulsions</sup> ~~stiffness~~ in dif-  
-ferent parts of the body, or general Convulsions  
which for the most part close the moving Scene,



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I put an End to his Life. —

It must not be imagined that this History belongs to all the different Degrees of this Disease. — perhaps the Symptoms are seldom found to occur exactly in the Order we have described them. There is nothing more difficult in Medicine than to give a complete History of a Disease, nor will this Difficulty ever be removed till we are able fully to collect all the Species & varieties of Disorders & to arrange them under proper Genera & Orders. by this means we shall be able to distinguish Diseases by those Marks Only which are truly pathognomonic, & that too in a few words.







7

many of the symptoms however related in  
this history belong only to the Bilious Fever,  
and are to be met with in no other Disease,  
such in particular are the violent pain about  
the Praecordia - the constant vomiting, & the  
yellow colour of the skin when joined with ~~vomiting~~  
fever. these will serve to distinguish it from  
all the Cases of nervous - Inflammatory - and  
petechial Fevers. The last mark affords a  
sure Diagnosis between the Bilious Fever &  
the Jaundice. —

There is One Disease which is often confoun-  
ded with the Bilious Fever viz: the March or  
Camp Fever so accurately described by Sir  
John Pringle in his <sup>Treatise on</sup> Diseases of the Army.  
This Disease often alternates <sup>th</sup> w: the Dysentery,



\* See a note in Sir John Pringle's Dis-  
-eases of the Army. p 205.



It appears to be the same Disease only diversi-  
 fied by the greater or lesser Moisture of the wea-  
 ther. it depends on an obstructed Perspiration,  
 which when effused into the Intestines, & mixing  
 with the Bile constitutes the Dysentery. The  
 Discharge of Bile in this Disorder is only <sup>an</sup> accidental  
 Circumstance, it does not always attend, especially  
 in the manner, or in the Degree we have taken  
 notice of in the Bilious Fever, nor does the Patient  
 complain of ~~that~~ any remarkable pain or  
 burning about the Praecordia. I will not  
 however say, but what both Diseases may  
 have been originally the same. Their Difference  
 may be entirely owing to the Influence of Climate  
 & other Circumstances upon them. Dr. Huxham seems  
 to be of this Opinion. \* The Camp as well as Bilious Fever  
 in time becomes a contagious Disease. —



\* See Sir John Pringle's Diseases of the Army page 82-3

+ Ibid: page 83. -



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The causes which ~~produce this disease~~ are

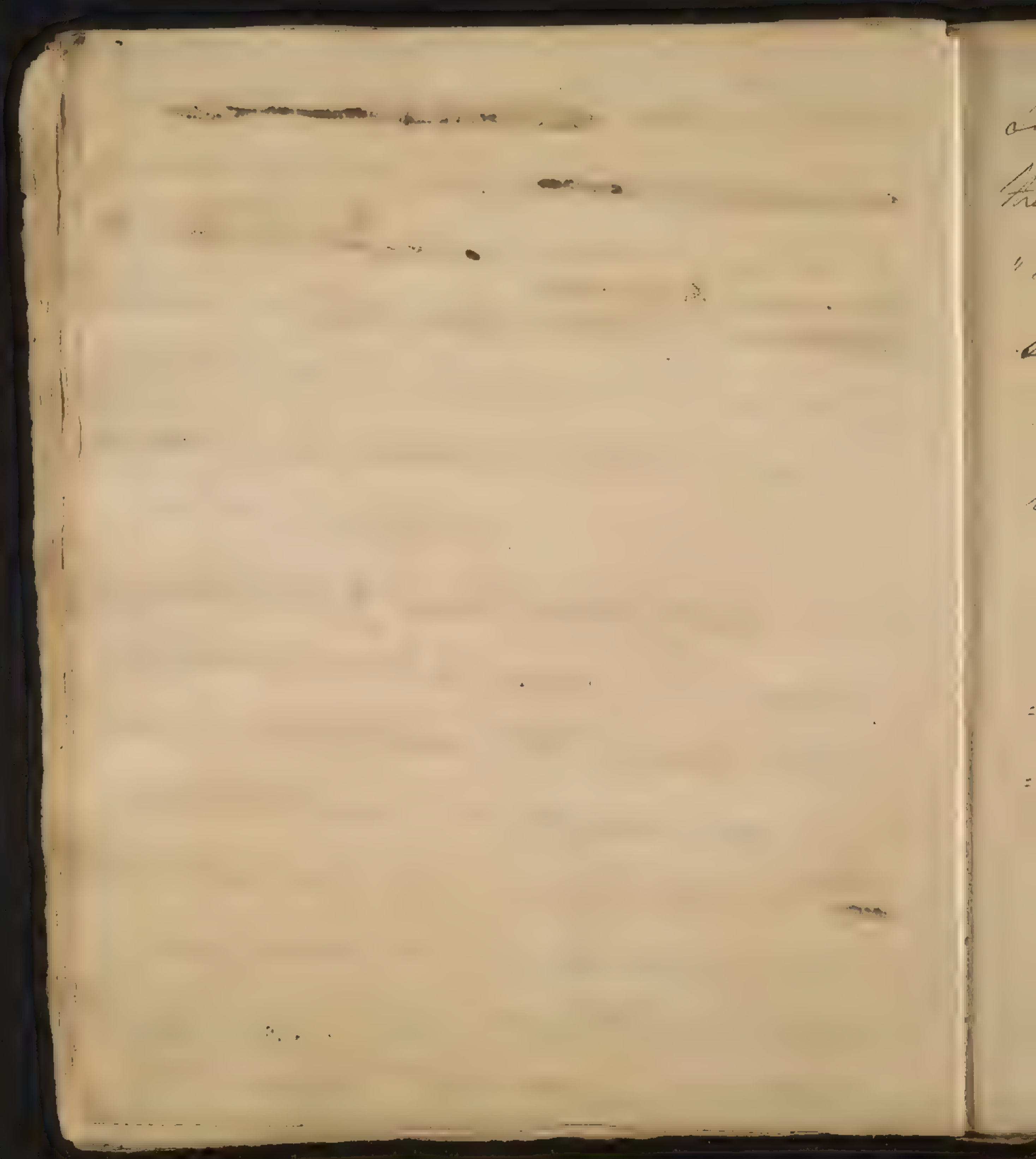
~~in the joint~~ favour the Operation of

the Contagion which produces <sup>this Disease,</sup> are the same <sup>4.</sup>  
being on a Predisposition  
~~to~~ to Other malignant Fevers, such as

- 1<sup>st</sup> Heat joined with Moisture 2<sup>nd</sup> very calm weather.  
3<sup>rd</sup> the intense Heat of the Sun continued for some  
time. 4<sup>th</sup> great Quantities of Animal Food.

This so much disposes Persons to be affected with  
contagious Diseases of all kinds that the Reason  
why the Plague & Other pestilential Disorders  
prevail so much less now, than they did a  
hundred  
~~the~~ Years ago, has justly been attributed among  
Other causes to the greater use of Vegetables  
in Diet than formerly. — 5<sup>th</sup> Intemperance  
of all kinds by weakening the Energy of the







Sensorium favours the action of Contagion upon  
the Septum. This Disease is called by <sup>the</sup> French

"La Fièvre Matelotte" ~~which is~~ <sup>because</sup> of the  
sailors in the West-Indies <sup>upon their arrival</sup> ~~being~~ <sup>are</sup> very subject

to it. This <sup>may</sup> <sup>be</sup> easily accounted for when  
we reflect, how very apt sailors are above

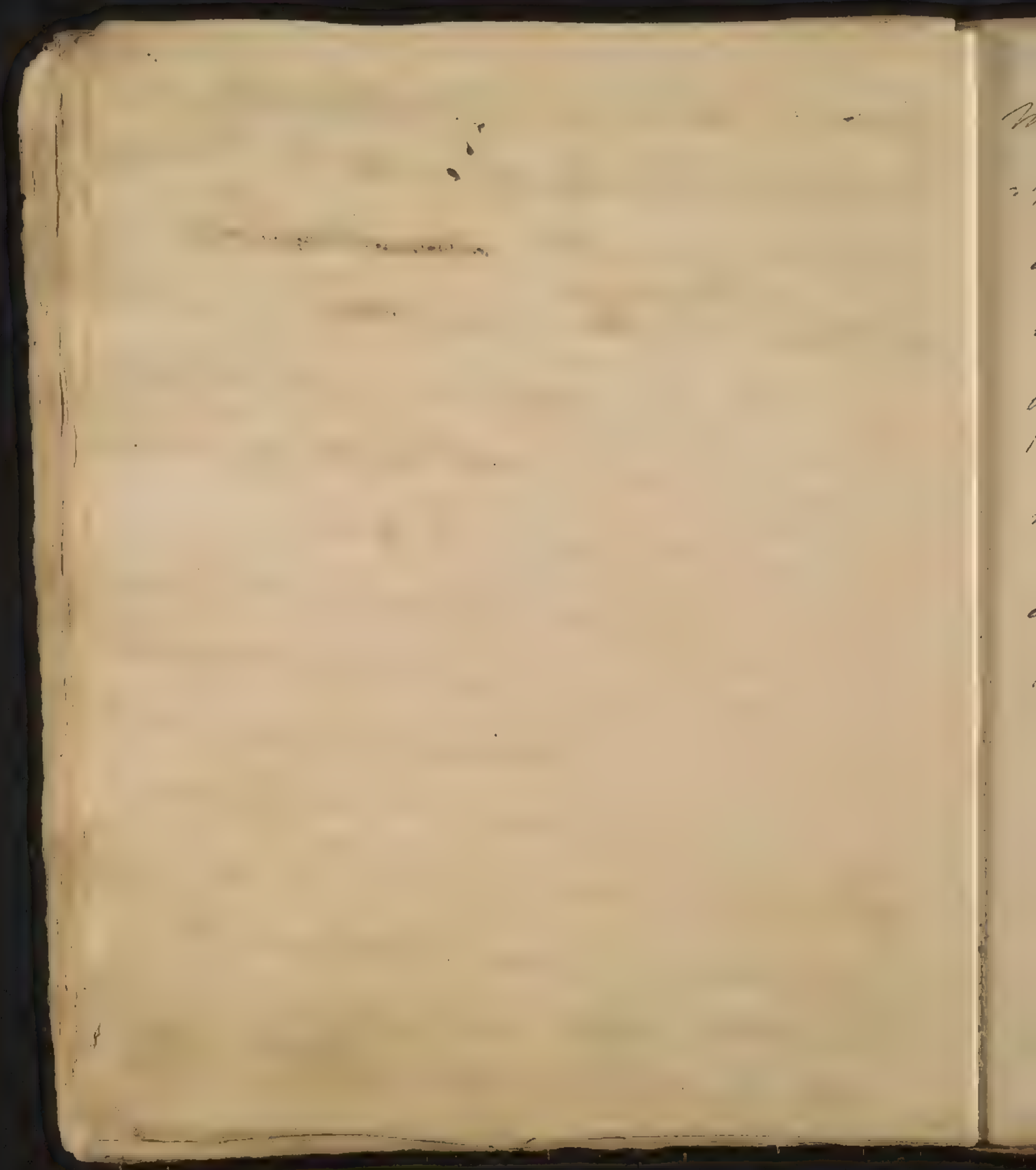
all men to drink to excess, & to be guilty of  
most kinds of Intemperance. 6.<sup>th</sup> all highdear  
-soned Food - profuse evacuations & violent exer-

cise of the body tend to increase the sensibility of  
the Septum, & thus render it more liable to be  
affected by the Contagium. But 7.<sup>th</sup> there is nothing

which predisposes more to this Disease than

than Passions of the mind which are properly  
called Sedative, more especially <sup>Grief &</sup> Fear. in what







manner they operate it is not our business to ex-  
plain. But the <sup>they</sup> Effects ~~induced~~ are entirely  
analogous to the <sup>Effects of 4:</sup> Causes we spoke off before. it  
is owing to the Debility induced upon the System  
by these <sup>near</sup> Relations & Friends of  
Persons who are seized with this Disease are  
more ~~apt~~ to be affected with it than others. This  
explains to us likewise the Reason why the  
Plague & all other contagious Diseases make  
greater Havock at their first Appearance in  
a City or Country than ever they do afterwards.  
as People <sup>become</sup> ~~are~~ gradually so used to them that  
their Fear after a while in some measure  
subside. —







It is to be wished ~~that we wished~~ we could assign  
 the Proximate Cause of this Disease as easily  
 as we have ~~assigned~~ the predisposing. ~~cause~~. Nature  
 who seems to have delighted in simplicity in  
 her other works, has wrapped herself in a veil  
 in the Animal Economy, & concealed her  
 more secret Operations from ~~of~~ our view.  
 we no sooner begin to investigate them, than  
 we are at once lost in a labyrinth of causes & effects.  
 - these Difficulties occur with peculiar Force in  
 our Inquiries into the proximate Cause of the  
 Bilious Fever.

It would employ too much time to here  
 to recount all the Opinions that have sub-  
 sisted among Physicians upon this subject.



~~Quod si forte videretur, ut si dixeretur hinc diceretur  
et sic dicitur.~~

\* ut Bilis Putrescentiam examinarem  
in unam Phialam infudi Bilis recentis Serrum:  
= ciam, cum Aqua fontana Sesquiunciam, &  
in Alteram Phialam infudi Carnis, ex eodem  
animali, recentis, et in pulpam contusa  
Drachmas duas cum Aqua fontana Unciis dua:  
= bus. Utramque Phialam apertam reponui in  
Hypocausto, ad Calorem Humani sani calispe:  
= to. post Horas sex, Caro Odorem summe fetu:  
= tem cadaverum ~~hinc~~ praebebat, Bilis vero Odor  
nequaquam mutata fuit, & non nisi post Horas qua:



I shall only hint at one or two of them.

13

For a long time this Disease was supposed to have its seat in the Bile upon the Aut. of various ~~Opinion~~ <sup>Opinion</sup> that it was more disposed to Putrefaction than any of the Other Humors of the Body. But we have <sup>a</sup> direct Experiments that prove the contrary of this Doctrine to be true. nor can we attribute the Disease to an increased Secretion of Bile any more than we can the Small pox to the profuse spitting, or the Hysteria to the immoderate Flow of Urine which generally take place in those Diseases. I am so far from thinking that it depends upon a morbid Acrimony of the Bile, that I rather imagine the Acrimony <sup>of this fluid</sup> is considerably diminished. all



draginta Acto, Odorem velut Moschi exspirabat.

Dr. Ramoan's Inaugural Dissertation  
"de Bile" Liber: ~~XXV~~.



secretions we know become acrid by Stagnation,  
from their fluid parts being reabsorbed & carried  
into the Circulation. Now as the Bile is  
discharged in such large Quantities as  
soon as it is secreted, it has not time to  
acquire even that Degree of Acrimony which  
is natural to it. I know many Physicians  
talk of Matter being thrown up so acrid  
as to corrode the Oesophagus & Fauces.  
But I am apt to think there may be  
some Fallacy in this Observation. The repeated  
Efforts of vomiting may inflame those  
Parts so as to render them more sensible



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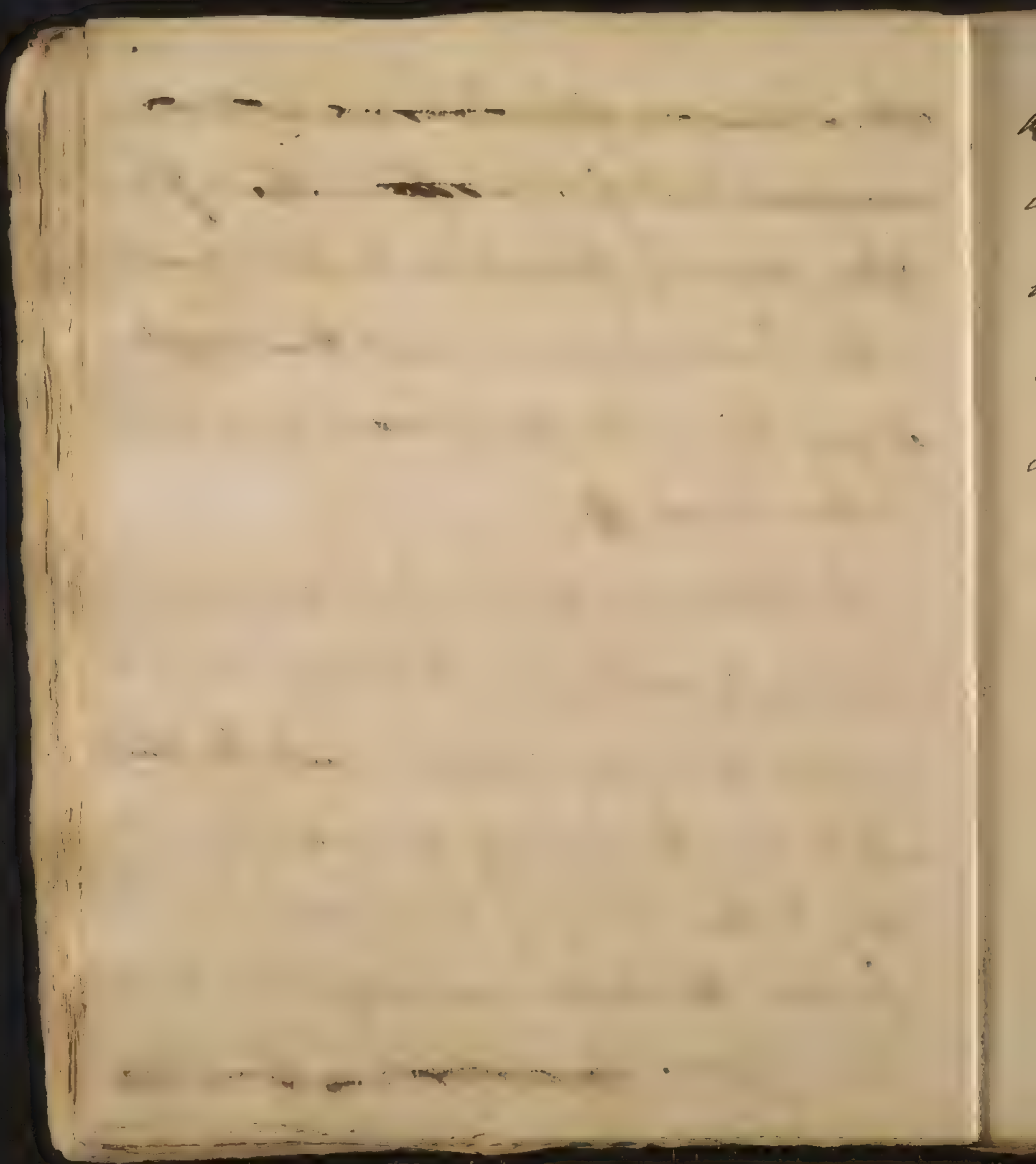
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to the Stimulus of the Bile, & may thus bring  
on a great deal of pain: for my part I have  
Often stood by Patients in the Act of vomiting  
in this Disease, & yet never heard them complain  
of any thing like that corrosive pain some  
Authors speak of. —

An Opinion of later Date, & now more  
universally received, is, that it is owing to  
a putrid Ferment introduced into the Blood,  
which has the power of assimilating it to  
itself, & thus bringing on a general Putre-  
faction. This notion was originally derived  
from Galen. ~~who has since been followed by~~





~~"But in order to give a full and complete~~  
~~conception of the doctrine of the~~  
~~doctrine of the doctrine"~~ - ~~the~~ Doctrine

was readily adopted by the Chemists - They  
 considered the human Body in the same  
 Light they did their chemical vessels, and  
 imagined that the same Processes were car-  
 ried on there by Means of Menstrua -  
 - Ferments & Registers, which they saw every  
 day in their Operations, entirely forgetting  
 the Animation of the human System which  
 influences all its Operations in such a Man-  
 - ner as to render it difficult to illustrate  
 any of its Functions by Analogies borrowed



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from other parts of nature.

This Opinion Although supported so much by analogy will appear very improbable when we consider

<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> In all cases of Putrefaction by means of Fermentation we see an entire Change of Pro-

-perties produced. a total Decomposition ensues,

& the new Product retains none of <sup>the</sup> Properties of the former Matter. But we see nothing of

this kind take place in putrid Ferments. The

Blood is only dissolved, or its component parts mixed, but no new Change is induced in its

Nature & Properties.



\* Juvenula in Febre continua putrida re-  
-gluta prorsum, nullam Annino Artis Opem  
experta. Die undecimo Morbi ad nos deferatur,  
toto pectore, colloque Anteriore pluri mis  
Petechiis scatens. Morbo ut illa retulit  
quotidie aucto; nullam ut nos judicare debui-  
-mus, sui Coctionem praebente. Sanguis ipsi  
tunc missus, in vasculo primo, et tertio Crusta  
phlogistica tectus erat, universaque in  
rubra parte compactissimus. Duodecimo  
Morbo die repetita Venae Sectio, crustam dedit  
hesternā densiorem. Ergo nec 12 Dierum Diutur-  
-mitate, nec centenarum Petechiarum Insuper-  
-re Sanguis Inflammatoriam suam Spissitudinem,  
sive Cruditatem amiserat. Vol 11. page 162

2<sup>nd</sup> we often see all the Symptoms of a putrid  
Fever arising from contagion, & yet the Blood  
so far from being dissolved retains an Inflam-  
matory Crust. a remarkable Instance of  
this may be seen in the works of the learn-  
ed Dr. De Haen of Vienna<sup>th</sup>.

3<sup>rd</sup> ~~repeated~~ <sup>for the most part</sup> Ferments, begin to act as soon  
as they are applied to the Bodies on which they  
are designed to Operate, & generally Observe a  
uniform regular time in their Action, but No-  
thing of this kind is Observed w<sup>th</sup> regard to the  
Contagious we are treating off. it sometimes  
lies ten or twelve Days before it excites  
the Disease, & sometimes brings it on at

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\* See Dr. Lindi's Treatise upon Fever & Infection  
page 62

Once. \* in these Cases surely no Fermentation  
 could have taken place. the Patients mentioned  
 by Dr Lind were seized the moment they re-  
 -vied the Contagion. Sir John Pringle mentions  
 several Instances of Soldiers who were seized  
 in a manner equally sudden with these  
 men. Although it does not tell us they  
 perceived any smell at the time. But it  
 is highly probable these Symptoms could arise  
 from nothing else, but the immediate action  
 of the Miasmata or Contagion upon their  
 Nervous Systems. ~~Contagion~~ These Differences in the time  
 in which the body is affected, may easily be  
 accounted for by having Recourse to the diffi-  
 -rent

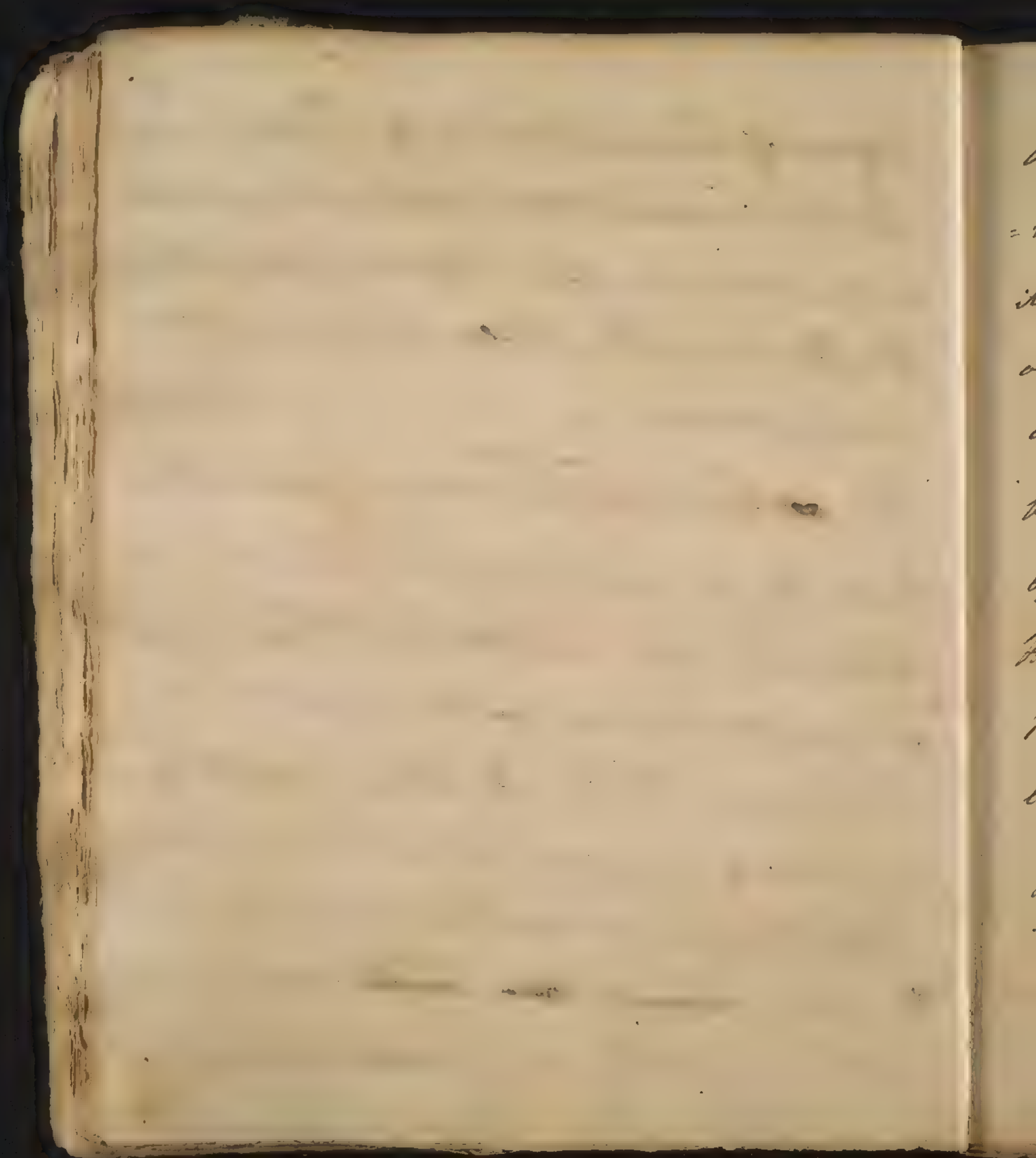


\* Physical & literary Group of Edinburgh  
vol. 11.

Types of Sensibility in different Constitutions.  
 - for the Disease always appears to be in a Ratio  
 compounded of the Sensibility or Predisposition of  
 the Patient, and <sup>of</sup> the violence of the contagious  
 matter applied. -

4<sup>th</sup> <sup>we know</sup> ~~the~~ Ferments act uniformly on whatever  
 Bodies they are applied to, but Contagion we  
<sup>see</sup> ~~never~~ does not. we often see Persons exposed  
 to it, for Months & Years together, without catching  
 the Disorder. Dr. Lining tells us, that the Negroes  
 in Carolina were never subject to this Disease,  
 altho' they were constantly exposed to it. Physicians  
 & Nurses ~~escape~~ <sup>generally</sup> ~~generally~~ escape it, not-  
 withstanding they are so ~~much~~ conversant





with it. What fear this be owing to? - per-  
 -haps we shall be able to show hereafter, that  
 it depends upon a less irritable nervous system,  
 on which the Contagion appears principally to  
 act. in the former case the negroes from  
 being obliged to work so much in the  
 open air, & in a Degree of Heat often beyond  
 that of their own bodies, had contracted a  
 kind of Insensibility to the Impression made  
 by the Contagion, & in the latter case the Absence  
 of Fear, which we mentioned as a chief pre-  
 -disposing Cause, & the Force of Habit tended  
 to render the Contagion ineffectual. it is  
 a common Remark that Strangers only



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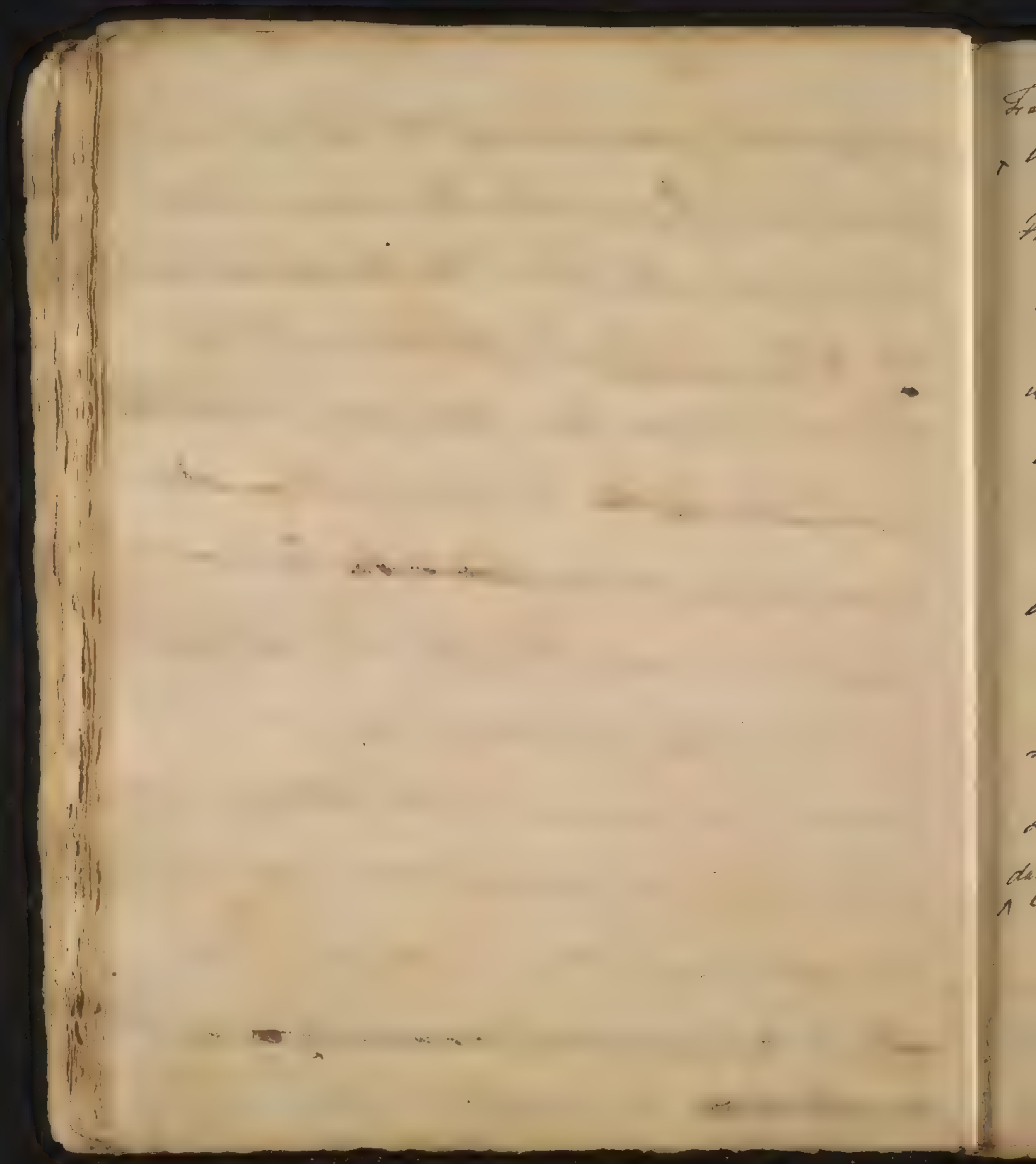
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are subject to the Yellow Fever of the West Indies, &  
 upon this is founded the Distinction, which some  
 make between the Bilious & Yellow Fever. but  
 the latter is only a higher Degree of the former  
 Disease, & arises from Strangers having the  
 Sensibility of their Constitutions greatly en-  
 creased, upon coming ~~first to the~~ from a tem-  
 perate to a warm Climate; which disposes  
 them to be affected not only sooner than the  
 natives, but in a much higher Degree. we  
 find moreover, that these Diseases naturally  
 propagate each Other. I have seen Persons  
~~in affected from a Yellow Fever which has fatal~~  
~~infecting~~ <sup>3</sup> in so slight a Degree, <sup>2</sup> from a yellow <sup>1</sup> as to recover





Fever <sup>if</sup> proved fatal in a few days.

without ever being in the least Danger; & on

the contrary I have seen the most mild bilious  
Fever, produce <sup>Other people such a</sup> ~~it~~ in <sup>One</sup> malignant ~~fever~~

~~in the~~ ~~People~~, as to terminated shortly in  
Death with all <sup>formerly enumerated</sup> the dreadful symptoms ~~which are mentioned~~  
~~as preceding Death~~. This in my Opinion is

an irrefragable proof of their being the same

Disease. how differently do we see <sup>the</sup> same Con-  
tagion operate in the small pox, producing in

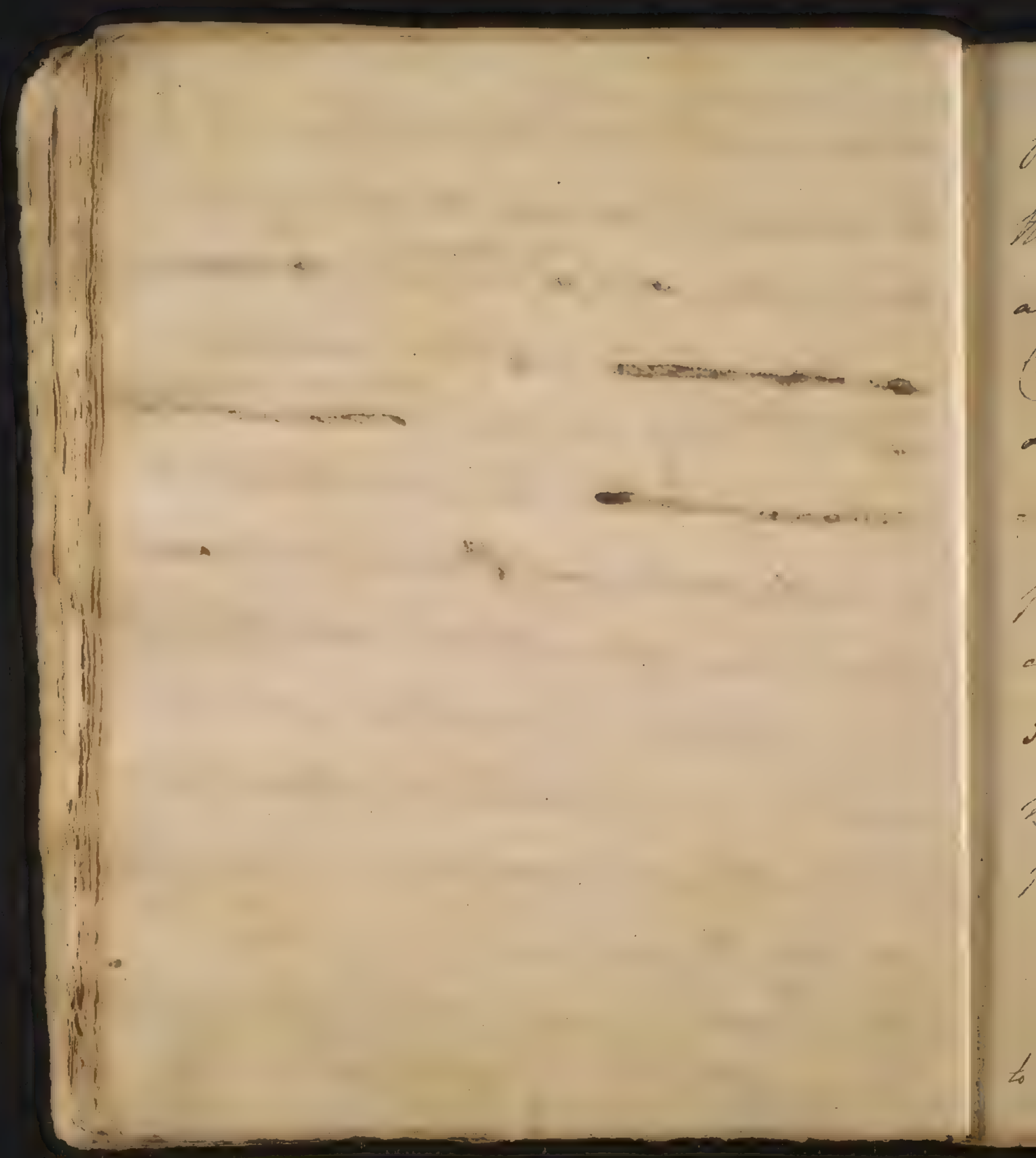
some the most favourable, <sup>distinct</sup> & in Others the most

<sup>dangerous</sup> confluent pox! yet no One will pretend to

say that there are two specific Contagions in  
this Disease. in both cases the lesser or greater

Degrees of the Disease depend <sup>chiefly</sup> upon the





Predisposition of the Patient. I have preferred the term Bilious, to that of the Yellow Fever, as the yellow colour is a mere accidental circumstance, & does not appear for some <sup>first</sup> Days after the Attack of the Disease. The Discharge of Bile is in some measure a pathognomonic symptom, & is inseparably connected w<sup>th</sup> the very nature of this Disease.

5<sup>th</sup> The Blood is renewed every two or three Months in so much that none of its former parts remain. Now <sup>as</sup> if this is the Case, if it was the seat of any putrefactive process, why should it not be a second time subject to Diseases depending upon it? - we know



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of <sup>but few</sup> ~~no~~ well attested facts of Persons being seized twice in their Lives with contagious Diseases, especially if they had them to a pretty high Degree.

6.<sup>th</sup> Even supposing a Ferment did act upon the Blood so as dissolve it, yet this would not <sup>be</sup> ~~be~~ for the Phenomena we see attending this Disease, for we often find a dissolved state of the Blood, & yet no Fever attending, as in Scorbutic & Typhoid Patients, & in Persons under a Salivation. Nor does a dissolved state of the Blood by any means <sup>imply</sup> ~~imply~~ a necessity for a Fermentation ~~as before~~ <sup>implying</sup>, as we sometimes see it take place in febrile Diseases, such as the Pleurisy & Pneumony.



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in which no One can suppose any thing like  
a Ferment introduced into the Blood.

7<sup>th</sup> In Order to support this Doctrine of a putrid  
Fermentation we are told that the Blood of  
Persons in hot Climates is much warmer than  
the Blood of Persons in cold Climates which dis-  
poses it more readily to Fermentation, &  
hence putrid Ferments act more easily upon  
it. But this Supposition is entirely without  
Foundation. The Blood of every Person in a healthy  
State retains the same uniform Temperature in  
all Countries, even in those, where the Heat of the  
Atmosphere is  $20^{\circ}$  or  $30^{\circ}$  Degrees above the  
ordinary Heat of the Body. -

8<sup>th</sup> Much has been said of the fetid Smell



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which attends this Disease as an Argument in  
 Favour of Putrefaction: But I believe ~~that~~  
~~of it~~ ~~is~~ without any Foundation. for  
 my part, I have often seen this Fever in its  
 last Stages, & yet never perceived any smell  
 peculiar to it. ~~but a putrid~~. There is  
 nothing more common than to describe  
 the History of a Disease from ~~so~~ some  
 preconceived Notion of its Cause. M: de  
Sauvages takes Notice of this Source of Error  
 in Medicine. I shall beg leave to transcribe  
 his own words upon this subject, as they apply  
 directly to what we have been advancing.  
 " Dolendum est quod nullus Auctor, ut M:  
 " servat Stahlius, Febrium Species distinguit,



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" nisi ex ~~potest~~ preconcepta, Putredinis &  
 " Malignitatis Opinione, ita ut Individuas  
 " Observationes comparatas ad suam Speciem,  
 " immo ad Genus referre, difficillimum sit: hoc  
 " exinde factum est quod nullus Auctor Histo-  
 " riam Morbi ~~supponat~~ ab ejus Theoria Philo-  
 " sophica, & semper Causam cognatam suppo-  
 " nat, atque exinde signa Characteristica deri-  
 " vare contendat, quo more nihil pejus in  
 " Re medica. — Nosolog: vol: II. p. 239

But allowing a Fator to take place in this  
 Disease, it by no means proves a Putrefaction  
 of the Fluids. ~~therefore~~ there is no Symptom  
 more Observable in the Leucoroe than the <sup>a</sup> fatid  
 Smell. This has long been supposed to proceed



22  
\* secundum mea Experimenta me convincere  
de vera Putredine, etiam nondum Alkalina  
in vivente Corpore Animali. in tot morbis  
putridis etiam conclamatis dum Sanguis  
venâ tuâ ductus aut aliunde affluens  
examinatus, nunquam ne in peccatis  
quidem variolis Putredinis signa vel muni:  
ma mihi dedit. Vol: k: p: 172.

Il seroit sans doute bien singulier  
que des Malades, auxquels on a Observé les  
Marques les plus complètes de cette prétendue  
pourriture, pussent non seulement en  
échapper, mais encore jouir peu de tems  
après de la Santé la plus parfaite. Combien

from a Putrefaction of all the Animal Fluids.  
 But this is not the Case. was this a proper  
 plan we could prove it from a variety of  
 Arguments, & show that the Disease proceeds  
 entirely from an excessive Quantity of an Am-  
 moniacal Salt in the Blood. The Odor of Bodies  
 is so much influenced by their modes of Aggregation,  
 that we may easily conceive of the Fluids emitting  
 a peculiar Smell without having Recourse to Pu-  
 trefaction. <sup>the ingenious Dr. Hæm who has enriched</sup>  
<sup>medicine with so many useful Experiments de-</sup>  
<sup>clares y<sup>t</sup> he never found any traces of Putridity in those</sup>  
<sup>Fluids which are commonly called putrid.</sup> After having raised these Objections  
 to the Theory of Putrefaction it will be  
 expected that I should assign some Other  
 proximate Cause. I wish I was able to do  
 so. but such is Our present confined State of



de Gens d'ailleurs ont l'haline si puante  
qu'on n'ose les approcher, & d'autres dont  
les sueurs, & la transpiration ont une  
Fétidité qu'on a de la peine à supporter,  
& qui ne laissent pourtant pas de jouir de  
la meilleure Santé? - Osera-t-on dans  
cette circonstance, que leur Sang est cor-  
rompu? Combien de substances ne  
connoît-on pas parmi les végétales, les  
animales & les minérales, qui exhalent de  
leur nature une Odeur des plus désagréa-  
ble? Pourquoi les liqueurs vivantes ani-  
males ne pouvant-elles pas prendre ce Carac-  
tère très-indépendant de la putréfaction,  
dont on sçait que les Effets sont la Destruction  
totale du Miste sans retour? Licutaud; *précis*  
de la Médecine. p. 25







\*Hujus enim loci sunt Pontagiones quarum  
virtute velut genitali id genus morbi suam  
speciem propagant, & communicata Multi-  
modis labe per Homines grassantur. agunt  
estate, & virulenta potestate, & suo quaque  
modo sibi proprio, & in alias atque alias  
Corporis partes, Effectusque Statusque quidem  
at longe diversissimos produciunt. unde con-  
stat, uti Origine, ita naturis, magnopere  
inter se discrepare, et suas singulis indites  
esse certas vires, quibus, cum per congruas  
vias in Corpora deveniant actioni faventia,  
suam quolibet morbi Formam distinctam  
connotanti lege haud aliter procreant quam  
plantarum, Animaliumve Semina,

Seasons, & on different Constitutions? - or are  
 there are so many different Species of it?  
 - if we attend to the most common Occa-  
 sional Cause of these Diseases viz putrid & he-  
 matic or Animal Effluvia we shall be  
 inclined to the first Opinion. But when  
 we reflect that these <sup>Miasmata</sup> ~~Contagions~~ act uniform-  
 ly on all Constitutions which they affect, & in  
 all Seasons of the Year, we are led to ~~believe~~  
 believe the last Opinion, especially when we  
 add to this that Persons who have had one  
 of these contagious Diseases are not exempted  
 from the Others.\*

2<sup>d</sup> Is it not more probable that the Contagion  
 affects the Solids primarily rather than the



aptes concepta loio, in suam singula de-  
-terminatam Speciem evolvuntur.

Garbii Pathologia  
§498. —

Fluids? & do not the Fever - the Debility <sup>ch</sup> w:  
 attends it, & the Impossibility of the Patients  
 being seized a second time with ~~it~~ it, all tend  
 to favour this Supposition.

3.<sup>d</sup> May not the dissolved State of the Blood  
 arise entirely from Debility in the Solids induced  
 by the sedative ~~the~~ powers of the contagious  
 matter, especially as we always find it propor-  
 -tioned to this Debility? & may not the Hamor-  
 -rhages which sometimes attend these Fevers,  
 be rather the consequence of a preternatural  
 Relaxation of the Solids than of a putrid Acri-  
 -mony introduced in the Blood?

4.<sup>th</sup> It has long been a Problem in Physic



*[Faint handwritten text visible on the right edge of the page, likely from the adjacent page.]*

Why Persons are Subject to contagious Dis-  
 eases but Once in their Lives. Some have  
 supposed it was owing to the Blood being but  
 Once capable of undergoing the Fermentation  
 induced by the several Contagions. but this  
 will appear very improbable, if we attend  
 to what was said before, of the Blood being  
 renewed every two or three Months. Others  
 again have resolved the Fact ultimately  
 into the Will of the Creator, & have thus  
 checked at Once an Inquiry of the utmost  
 Consequence in Physic. But this mistaken  
 Penetration has done no less Injury to the Pro-  
 gress of Science in every Age, than it has  
 detracted from the Honour of the Author of



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Nature. the more minutely we push our  
 Inquiries into the works of Nature, the more  
 evident Traces we find of the wisdom of the  
 Deity, & this wisdom is displayed no less in  
 efficient, than in final causes. — I shall  
 therefore attempt a Solution of this Question.

The Force of Habit is well known in our  
 System. all the Organs of Sense are liable to  
 Sensations from Impressions communicated  
 to them by external Bodies. these ~~Impressions~~ <sup>Sensations</sup>  
 are more or less acute, as the Impressions  
 have been more or less continued. a Man  
 who has long been accustomed to study in  
 a Place adjoining a Smith's Shop, or the street,



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is deaf to the noise of the Hammer or Chandel  
which at first disturbed him, but hears at Once  
the softest Notes of Music, or even a Whisper  
in an adjoining Room.

a delicate Lady who has long been in a  
Habit of taking Snuff in large Quantities,  
without feeling perhaps the least Irritation  
upon her Nose, is thrown into convulsive  
Fits by the Smell of Musk - Ambergrease or  
even a Rose. -

a Person who has long been used to chew  
Tobacco, feels none of those Sensations excited  
on his Tongue, he did the first day he took it  
into his Mouth; but if any thing of different



*[Faint, illegible handwriting on a blank page]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on the right edge of the page]*

Nature, with the least Degree of Acrimony is applied to his Tongue, he immediately feels the same Sensations excited on it, that a Person does who never chewed Tobacco in his Life. - Instances of this Nature might be multiplied without Number. —

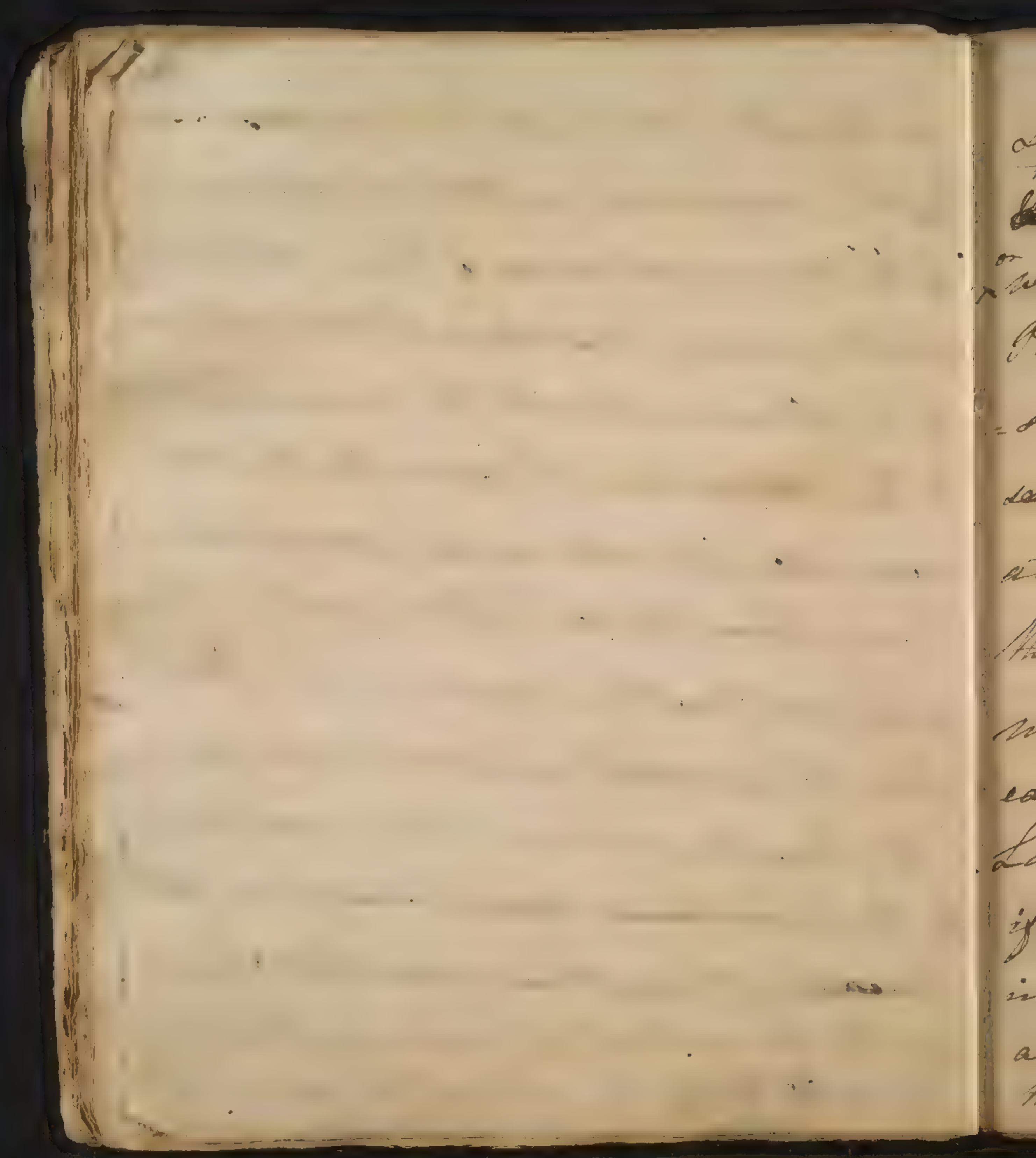
We before aimed to prove, that Contagion was nothing but a Stimulus applied to the Nervous System which induced an increased Action of the vessels. if this is the Case, may not each Contagion leave the same State of Insensibility upon the Nerves which we find the several Impressions Aforesaid, leave upon each of the Organs of Sense? I know it will.



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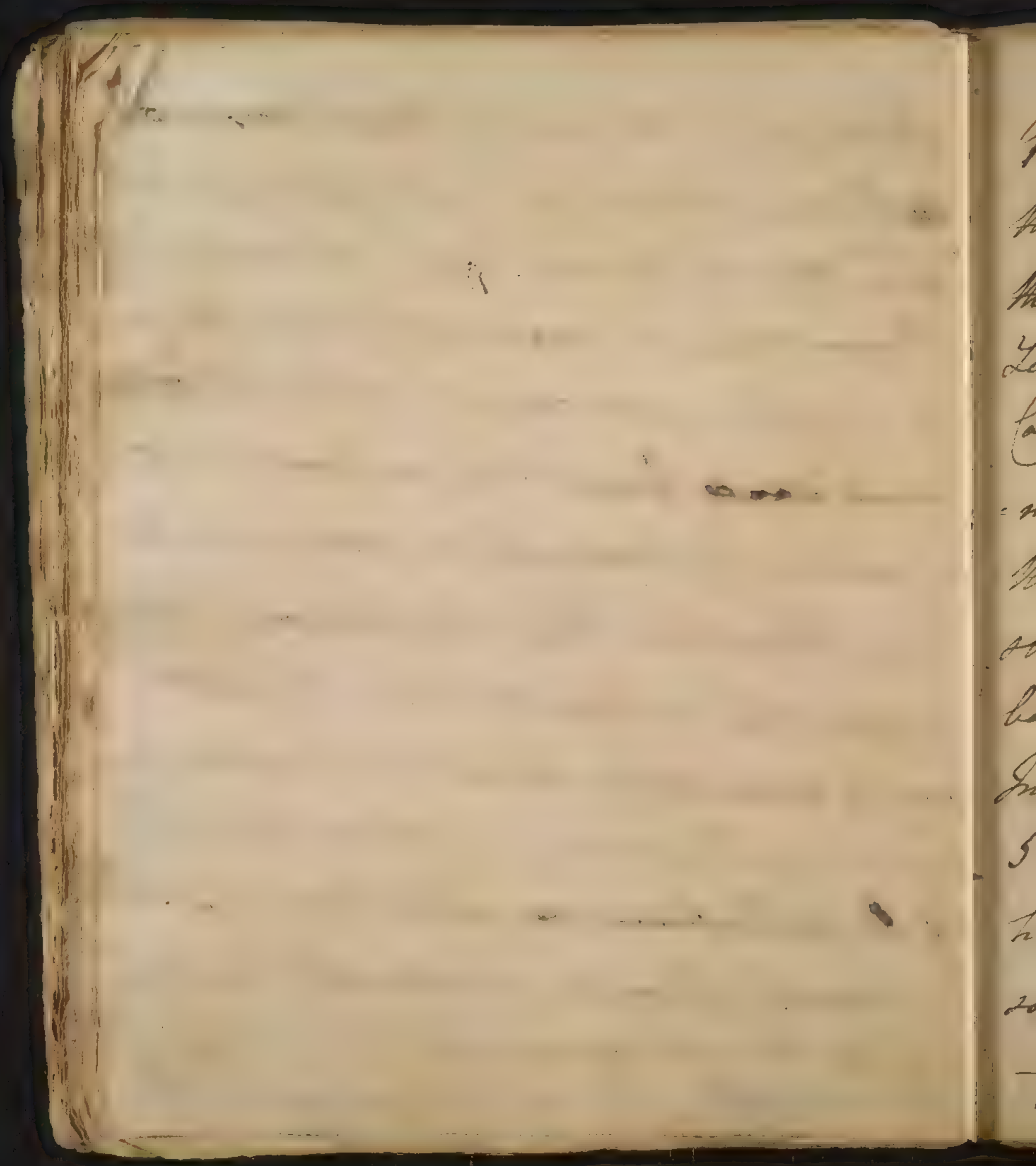
he Objcted here, that the venereal Disease  
 & such are received as often as we are exposed  
 to the Occasional Causes of them. to this I  
 would answer, that these Diseases appear  
 to be less connected with the nervous System;  
 & this I take to be the Reason, why they are  
 never attended with any Fever, except when  
 it arises from topical Inflammation. the  
 infectious Matter moreover is in a fixed  
 state, & hence exerts a more partial stimulus.  
 — If Camphor, or Musk, when wore around  
 the Neck ever secure Against contagious ~~not~~  
 Diseases, it must be by exciting a stimulus  
 on the Nerves, & thereby rendering them less  
 sensible to the Stimulus of Contagion. In





Sydenham tells us that ~~the Poor~~  
~~the~~ Persons labouring under gouty Complaints,  
 or Ulcers were almost the only People who escaped the  
 Plague when it raged in London. The Rea-  
 son of this may easily be explained by the  
~~sense~~ ~~way~~ from what we have just now  
 advanced: for it is no less a Law in Impression  
 than Perception, that but One can be  
 made upon a Sense at Once. it would be  
 easy to show of how great Application this  
 Law is in Physic. — I grant indeed that  
 if the Impressions we before spoke of, are  
 intermitted for any considerable time, they  
 act as strongly as ever, when applied again to  
 the Body. This may easily be accounted for,





39

Nor does it in the least affect the Force of  
those Analogies. for we must remember  
that they are applied <sup>only</sup> to One of the Organs of  
Sense, & are never so violent as to induce any  
Commotions in the System, whereas the Stimulus of Contagion is so violent as to affect  
the whole System with an Impression so  
strong as to leave the Nerves callous if I may  
be allowed the Expression to every future  
Impression of a like nature.

5.<sup>th</sup> Another Question occurs here, & that is,  
how is it that One part of the Body should be  
so uniformly affected with the same Contagion?  
— I think a probable Answer may be offered

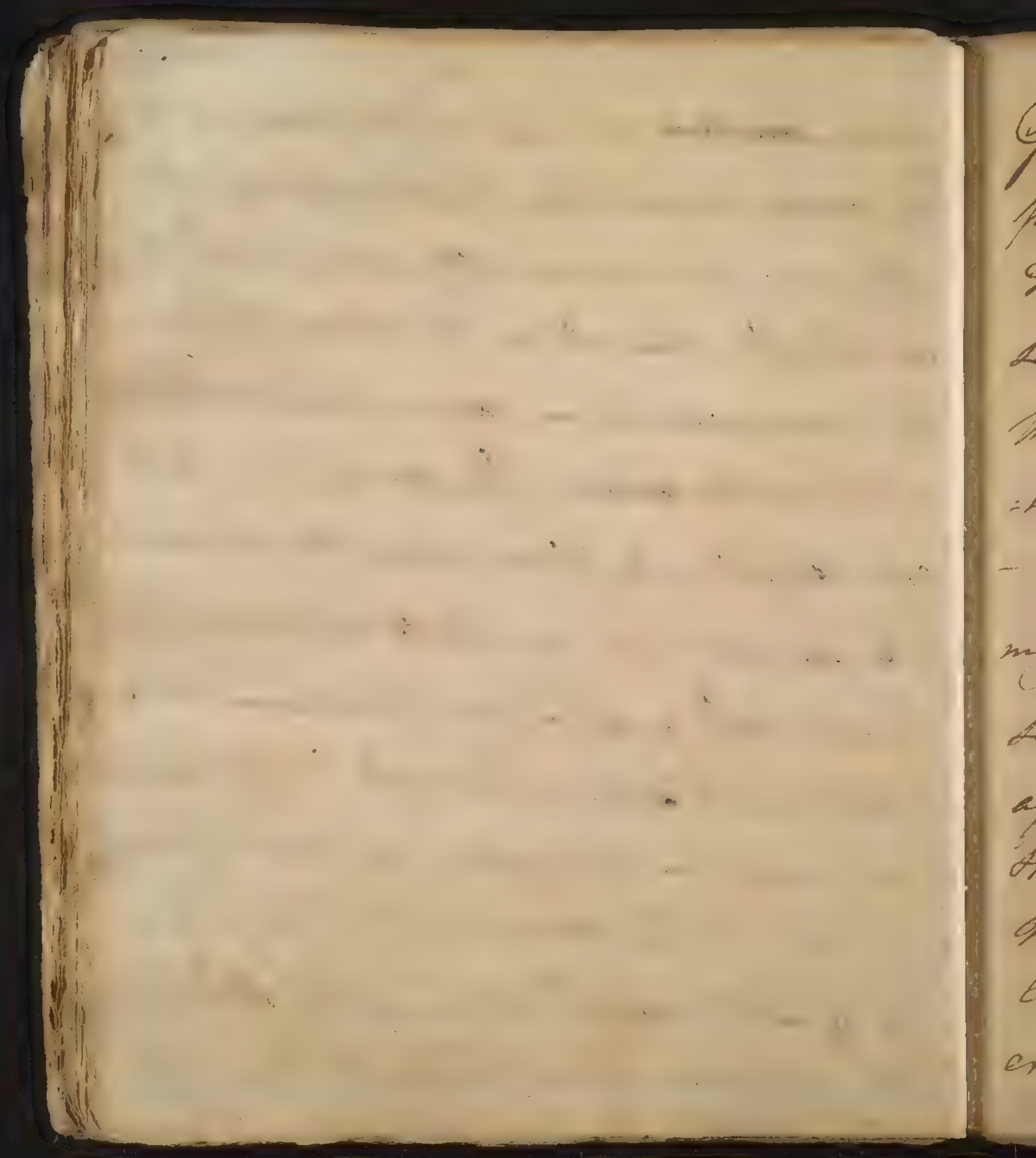


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to this. ~~For~~ we have before presumed that  
Contagions are in their Natures Specifically  
different. it is universally allowed that there  
are Specific Stimuli in Medicine. The Operation  
of Mercury can be no way explained but by  
supposing the Salivary Glands to be Specifically  
affected by it. Unless we admit this Doctrine  
I know not how we shall explain the  
Reason why a few Drops of Antimonial Wine  
should excite such a Sickness in the stomach,  
It yet excite no Sensations on the Tongue or  
even on the Eye itself; or why a large Quan-  
-tity of Salt may be taken into the stomach  
without producing any Sickness, & yet a few





Grains of it excite the most uneasy or  
 painful sensations, when applied to the  
 Tongue, or dropped into the eye. all this  
 seems to depend upon that wonderful  
 manner in which the Sense of Touch is divers-  
 itified throughout every part of the Body.

Now when we admit these Propositions we  
 may easily comprehend the Reason why the  
 same parts of the Body are so uniformly  
 affected by the same Contagions, such as the  
 Skin in the Small pox - the Lungs <sup>so generally</sup> in the  
 Measles, & the ~~Liver~~ <sup>Gall. bladder</sup> in the Bilious Fever.

6.<sup>th</sup> It is a Law in our System that all stimuli  
 excite Inflammation when applied to the





Body, & that this Inflammation is always  
 proportioned to the greater or lesser Sensibili-  
 -lity of the part affected. The Tendency of most  
 Inflammations when in a ~~pretty~~ high Degree  
 is to ~~gang~~ Suppuration or Gangrene & these  
 are always brought on sooner or later ac-  
 -cording to the violence of the Stimuli applied. Do  
 not all Contagions therefore act as stimuli  
 on the Parts they affect? & do not the Gan-  
 -groves & Suppurations which happen in  
 all parts of the Body evidently show that an  
 Inflammation has preceded? - I am not  
 singular ~~in this~~ in this Opinion. The  
 learned M: de Sauvages places the Plague  
 itself among the Inflammatory Diseases.



\* *Horologia* vol. II - page 363.

His words are "Morbus est Inflammatorius,  
 "quod indicant <sup>Ardor.</sup> Sitis, Rubedo" - Dr. Sydenham.  
 we find treated it as such, & never failed  
 to order Bleeding in its first Stages. in some  
 Cases, however <sup>of the Bilious Fever</sup> the Predisposition of the Patient &  
 the Force of the Contagion cooperate in such a  
 manner, as to induce an Atonia upon  
 the whole system so suddenly, as that no  
 marks of preceding Inflammation can be per-  
 ceived. this is the most frequent Appearance  
 of this Disease in the West India Islands. the  
 Sedative power of the Contagion alone prevails  
 in these Cases without any of the Stimulating.  
 the Gangrene then which occurs so frequently



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in the more malignant States of  $\frac{2}{y}$  Bilious  
Fevers are the mere Consequence of Atonia,  
It are not preceded by the usual Phenomena  
of Inflammation. This is not a new Proposition in  
Physic. the Gangrenes brought on by Cold  
Compression ~~are~~ depend in like manner  
upon the Force of the vessels being destroyed  
It not upon the ordinary Effusions which  
take place in these Inflammations which  
end in Gangrene. This doctrine may be  
still further illustrated by calling in the Analogy  
of Poisons which produce their Effects so sud-  
denly. it is now universally agreed that their





Operation is entirely confined to the Nerves, & yet how soon do we see all the appearances of discoloured blood - ~~putrid~~ Petechia & Hamorrhages to succeed their action. This was long supposed to be owing to a Putrefaction of the Fluids, but can now be explained more <sup>sudden</sup> rationally by having Recourse to the Atonia induced upon the Nervous System.

7<sup>th</sup>: a very natural Question arises here, & that is if we deny Putrefaction, taking place in the Fluids, in what Manner shall we account for the Propagation of the Disease? - to this I answer that I would by no means reject an Aspiration being present in





46

the Body. This we must admit, nor is it any  
way repugnant to the Doctrine we have  
been endeavouring to ~~prove~~ establish, espe-  
cially when we extend our Ideas of Assimilation.  
- The Measles are no less contagious than the  
Bilious Fever, & yet no One will pretend today  
there is the least Degree of Putrefaction attending  
them. I grant indeed that there is a tendency  
to a putrescent state in this Fever when it con-  
tinues for a considerable time, merely from  
the increased Heat & Friction, & from the  
want of a fresh Supply of Aliment. But this  
happens ~~in~~ likewise in Inflammatory  
Fever, & ~~do~~ has no Connection with a putrid



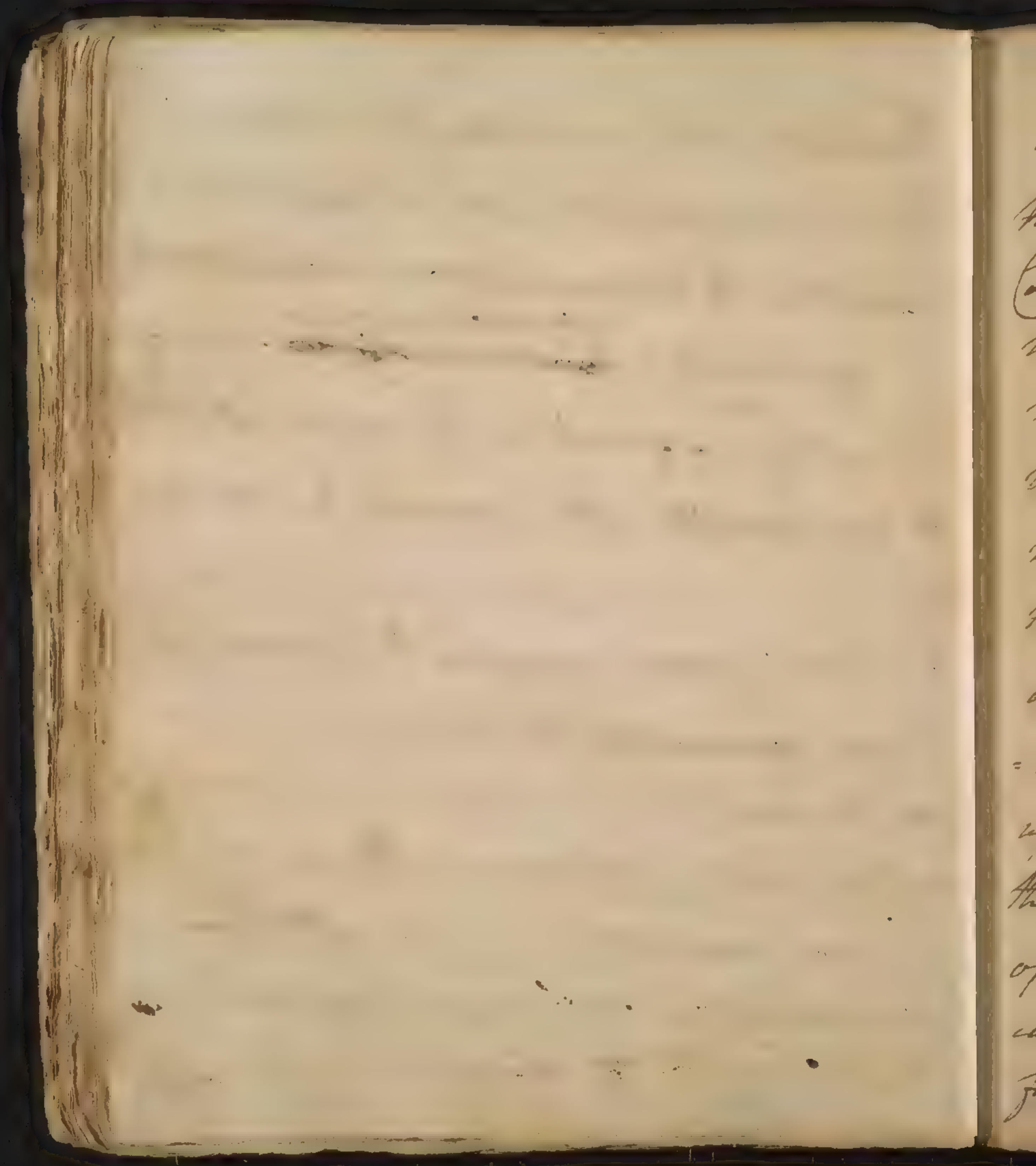
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Ferment introduced into the blood. What I  
have aimed chiefly to prove is, that the Disease  
is seated in the nervous System, & that the Fluids  
are affected only in <sup>a secondary manner.</sup> ~~consequence of this~~. it is of  
Importance to establish this, as our Indications  
of Cure hereafter will be entirely founded upon  
it. -

8<sup>th</sup> Nothing now remains but to say a few  
things concerning the Nature of the Contagion  
and Miasmata which produce this Disease. but  
as this Subject is still so very Obscure, & has it  
has no immediate Connection with the Doctrine  
we have been advancing, we shall sum up  
all we have to say upon it in a few words.





From what has been said it appears that this Disease can never be produced without the Concurrence of some highly acid irritating ~~cause~~ matter introduced into the Constitution. This matter originally may be of an animal or vegetable Nature. we have Instances in which malignant Diseases being produced from both these causes. in what manner these substances are diversified so as to produce different Diseases is hard to tell. perhaps it may depend upon different changes induced upon them from the different Circumstances of Heat & Moisture operating upon them. in this state they are called Miasmata. when the Disease is propagated from one Body to another they are called





Contagious.

It is now time to proceed to the Method of Cure.

The Indications in this Disease are

- I To Abate the increased action of the vessels.
- II to Obviate Debility.

To the 1<sup>st</sup> Indication belong

1<sup>st</sup> Bleeding - This is of the utmost consequence in ~~this disease~~ the beginning of this Fever. all authors agree in the Propriety of this Remedy.

D<sup>r</sup> Hillary ~~recommends~~ recommends it in his Treatise upon the Diseases of Barbadoes. the blood is sometimes covered with an inflam-  
matory



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Coat when drawn in the first stage of the Dis-  
 ease. no limited Quantity of Blood can be  
 fixed here. it must always depend upon the  
 Age - Temperament - State of the Pulse &  
 Vis Vite of the Patient. - it is best to take  
 but a small Quantity at ~~once~~<sup>first,</sup> & repeat  
 it afterwards if the Symptoms indicate it.

2<sup>ndly</sup> Laxative Medicines are highly useful when  
 the Bowels are constipated; but they should be  
 of the most gentle nature. The Sal Glauberi  
 seems to answer best for this purpose. it  
 should be given in small Doses by which means  
 it lies longer on the Stomach - is more cooling,  
 & less apt to purge the Patient immoderately.  
 3<sup>rdly</sup> Cool Regimen. consisting in cool Air



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2<sup>nd</sup> cold Drinks & 3<sup>rd</sup> ripe Fruits.

1<sup>st</sup> cool Air. There is not a greater Error in modern Practice than keeping Patients too hot indoors, more especially in those we have been describing. future Ages will be as much surprised at our Conduct in this Respect, as we are at the folly & madness of Asclepiades, who refused his Patients Drinks of all kinds in the first stages of Fevers. both Practices proceeded from ~~equally~~ <sup>equally</sup> erroneous Theories. The sagacious Dr Sydenham first endeavoured to reform this Practice. we find him dwelling upon it thro all his writings. The amazing Success which has attended the new mode of Inoculation, <sup>for the small pox,</sup> seems to be owing to nothing else than the free use of cool



\* Etiam amplo Conclavi tenendus, quo mul-  
- tae et purae Aefum trahere possit neque  
multis vestimentis strangulandus, sed admodum  
levibus tantum velandus est. Belus Lib: III Cap: 7

(a) How far the cool air may be of service in  
this ~~Disease~~ Fever, the following case, communicated  
to me by my very worthy & ingenious Dr. Hook Physician  
to St. Thomas's Hospital, will sufficiently demonstrate.  
- in returning from the Havannah after <sup>2</sup> Reduction  
of that place, a Soldier on Board of One of <sup>2</sup> Trans-  
- ports was seized with the Bilious Fever, & in spite  
of all that could be done for him, the Disease ran  
on to its last & worst stages. As he appeared to be

Regimen, & not to any Improvements made  
 in the Medicines commonly given in that Dis-  
 ease, as my ~~very~~ ingenious Friend & Country-  
 man Dr. Ruston has fully demonstrated in  
 his Treatise lately published upon that subject.  
 — bring in the Sentence on <sup>the</sup> opposite side here. I  
 would therefore advise the Chamber to be  
 down of Patients in the Bilious Fever, to be  
 kept constantly Open, & artificial Draughts  
 of Air to be introduced into it occasionally.  
 — they should likewise let up as much as  
 possible, & be covered with nothing but the light-  
 est Bed Cloaths. It would be of use besides,  
 this to sprinkle the Floor of the Bed Chamber  
 every now & then with Water, or Vinegar, which  
 by evaporating would induce a grateful Coolness



incurable, & began to grow offensive to the smell,  
the Doctor ordered him to be brought, & laid  
in order to  
prevent his infecting the rest of the Crew, as he  
took it for granted he could live only a few hours.  
But to the great Surprise of the Doctor & every  
one who saw him, in a little time ~~he~~ he began  
to revive — he was soon able to set up — & in  
a few Days was perfectly recovered. I would be  
[return to page 52 - line 6<sup>th</sup>]

in the Room, the Heat of which should al-  
ways be rather below than Above 60° of Fa-  
renheit's Thermometer.

2<sup>d</sup> Cold Drinks. Nothing can be more cruel, or  
ill-judged than to deprive the poor miserable  
Patients of that which they cry out so much  
for. How many Instances have we of the  
most remarkable Cures ~~of Fevers~~ being per-  
formed by a Draught of cold water! Why  
then do we oppose a Practice which Nature  
indicates, & which Experience justifies? We  
are <sup>lately</sup> informed, that the Practice of giving cold  
Drinks in Malignant Fevers prevails so much  
in Italy, that it is a very common thing among  
the Physicians there to dissolve Ice in all the



\* Si è visto nel nostro secolo le Febbre  
ardenti e le putride ed altre maligne di-  
pendenti da un humor crudo e indomabile,  
ceder felicemente, e risolvervi sotto l'uso  
dell' acqua gelata, non solo nel caldo clima  
di Napoli, ma anche in altre parti ~~del~~  
d'Italia, e in Bologna, dove io medesimo  
ho veduto questo metodo perfettamente riuscire.

Osservazione sopra un uolo irregolare  
Del Michele Rosa p. 25.

Drinks they give their Patients, in order to give them an additional coolness\*. Some Prudence however is necessary in the Administration of this Remedy. When the Inflammatory Diathesis prevails, in the Beginning of this Fever, to a pretty high Degree, cold Drinks may do mischief. Upon this Account it is best not to give them in large Quantities till the second or third Day of the Disease, or till we are cured from the sinking of the Pulse, & other Marks of Debility that the Inflammatory Diathesis is entirely removed.

3.<sup>d</sup> Ripe Fruits. These are of the highest use in all Fevers of this kind, not only because they are grateful to the Patient, but upon the Account of



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their cooling & laxative Qualities. the great Dr  
Boerhaave first introduced them at the Risque  
of his Reputation, & later Experience abundantly  
confirms their Usefulness. it is worth observing  
how bountifully the Author of Nature has  
provided those Countries, where these Fevers prevail  
most, ~~the~~ with the most delicious Fruits which  
are generally produced in that Season of the  
Year, ~~to~~ when these Fevers are most Epidemic.

To the II general Indication belong  
1. Preparations of the Back. this Medicine is  
the Only one on which we can venture to place  
any Dependence. the judicious Dr Sydenham  
whose Practice ~~was~~ in febrile Diseases, can never  
be too much admired, nor too closely followed by



\* See Dr. Haen's Ratio Medendi vol 1. p 268

Physicians, was the first who <sup>introduced</sup> ~~gave~~ the use 56  
of the Bark in Malignant Fevers of all kinds.  
Dr. Morton - Dr. Huxham - Dr. John Pringle  
& Dr. De Haen\* all abound with Facts in con-  
firmation of its ~~usefulness~~ admirable virtues  
in these cases. Each of these Authors recommend  
it in the highest state of the Disease, & do not  
confine its use to Remissions, which seldom or  
never happen in those Fevers where it is most  
indicated. - The Bark is generally supposed  
to act in these cases as an Antisepetic. This  
notion was introduced first from seeing its  
Effects in preserving Bodies from Putrefaction.  
But I ~~cannot~~ <sup>cannot</sup> believe it has  
~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> analogous Operation  
upon the <sup>human</sup> Body. I ~~would therefore reject it~~



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— Cardiac and Arterial Spasms —

~~1<sup>st</sup> Suppression and Retention.~~

2<sup>nd</sup> the use of acids. These in like manner have been given with a view of Obviating Putrefaction, & coagulating the Blood. But their immediate Operation is confined to the Stomach, from whence their Effects are extended to every part of the Body. They serve to brace up y<sup>e</sup> System & prove excellent cooling Medicines. the vitruvian acid is to be preferred to the Other Mineral acids, as being less heating & more agreeable to the Stomach.

3<sup>rd</sup> The free use of wine. among all y<sup>e</sup> Cordials which have been introduced into Medicine, there is none equal to this. it excites the vigour



\* Diseases of the Army &c. &c.

of the Sensorium, & promotes a due Distribution of the nervous Influence to every part of the Body. Of how great Use Wine is in the latter Stages of low malignant Fevers, Sir John Pringle has furnished us with some excellent Examples in his Observation on the Jail or Hospital Fever.

The best wine in these Cases is Port, or good Old Rhenish. The great Advantage of these Cordials is, that they revive & strengthen the Patient, without exciting any Heat or increasing the febrile Symptoms. The wine for the most part is given in too small Quantities to do Service.

pass on to page 66.<sup>th</sup>



\* Treatise upon Fever & Infection.

The use of Blisters in this Disease is <sup>more</sup> ~~more~~  
 ambiguous than the Exhibition of Vomits. How  
 far they might prove of Service in its first stage  
 I shall not pretend to say, as I have never  
 seen them tried in the Beginning of the Disease.

Dr. Lind relates some remarkable Instances  
 of their usefulness in the Beginning of the  
 Yellow Fever which was brought from Ame-  
 rica into England during the late war.

But I am apt to think the Disease was  
 so changed from what it was originally, that  
 it would not do to apply this Practice universally  
 to all Climates. in the second stage of the  
 Disease we have marked but they are evidently



\* Diseases of the Army p. 320.

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harmful, not by dissolving the Blood, & thereby  
increasing its putrid Diathesis as was formerly  
supposed, but by increasing the Atonia of  
the vessels, & thereby <sup>inducing</sup> ~~causing~~ Gangrenes  
in the places where they are applied. Sir  
John Pringle mentions a Case of a Soldier  
which confirms this, who was notwithstanding  
relieved by a plentiful use of  $\frac{1}{4}$  Bark\*.

- It is much to be wished that the proper  
use of Blisters was fully ascertained in this  
as well as in other malignant Fevers. We  
have too few Facts in Medicine to speak with  
any Degree of Confidence either in their Favour  
or against them. For my part I must



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acknowledge my want of Experience and  
Observation upon this Head. -

Thus have I finished what I intended  
in this Essay. Had I entered into a more  
minute Discussion of all those Questions, to which  
this Subject would naturally have led me,  
this Dissertation would have exceeded the  
Limits I proposed. Happy shall I esteem  
myself, if any thing I have hinted will tend  
to throw any new Light upon the Nature  
of the Disease, or lead to a more successful  
Treatment of it! - But if I have failed in  
<sup>Attempt,</sup> this, I shall take Shelter under the words  
of  
I say "magis lat est voluize"  
Finis.



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There are two Other Remedies which are sometimes  
 ordered in this Disease which do not properly come  
 under either of the Heads we have been treating  
 of, viz: Emetics & Blister. we shall conclude w:  
 a few Observations upon them. -

Dr. Hillary in his Treatise upon the Diseases of  
 Barbadoes speaks against the former of these &  
 as he was a Practitioner of considerable note  
 in that Island, his Practice has been pretty generally  
 followed by most of Physicians. There is nothing  
 perhaps that has tended more to retard the  
 Progress of Medicine than preconceived Hypotheses  
 concerning the Causes of Diseases, & however much  
 Practitioners may declaim against Theory, there  
 are few who ever prescribe any thing without laying



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down some Indications of Cure. it is highly  
 probable that Dr. Hillary, & those who have follow-  
 ed his Practice have been misled by this great  
 source of Error in Medicine. I have conversed with  
 several Gentlemen who have seen the Disease  
 in its worst Stages in the West India Islands who  
 have spoke very differently of the Wert of Admini-  
 strating Vomits. Dr. George Taylor a Gentleman  
 who has practised Physic w<sup>th</sup> great Success for many  
 Years at St. Christophers, assured me that he  
 had never lost a Patient in the Bilious Fever to  
 whom he had given a Vomit, provided he was  
 called on the first or second day of the Disease, the  
 Emetic he generally used, was a Solution of Tartar  
 Emetic in water which he gave in such Doses as to



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excite a gentle vomiting without straining the  
 Patient violently. Since I heard this, Dr. Keck  
 informed me, that during the Siege of Martinique  
 & the Savannah where he attended his Majesty's  
 Troops during the late war, he had given Vomits  
 with the utmost success, & that, in the most malig-  
 nant Degrees of this Fever his only Dependence was  
 placed upon them. I would not however recom-  
 mend Vomits with a view of evacuating putrid  
 ordes from the Prima via which according to  
 some act as Cures to the Disease. we before proved  
 that this had little or no share in keeping up the  
 Complaints of the Patient. They seem rather to produce  
 their Effects by bringing on a Determination toward the  
 Skin, & thereby Obviating the febrile Process induced  
 upon its Surface. There are Cases however in which

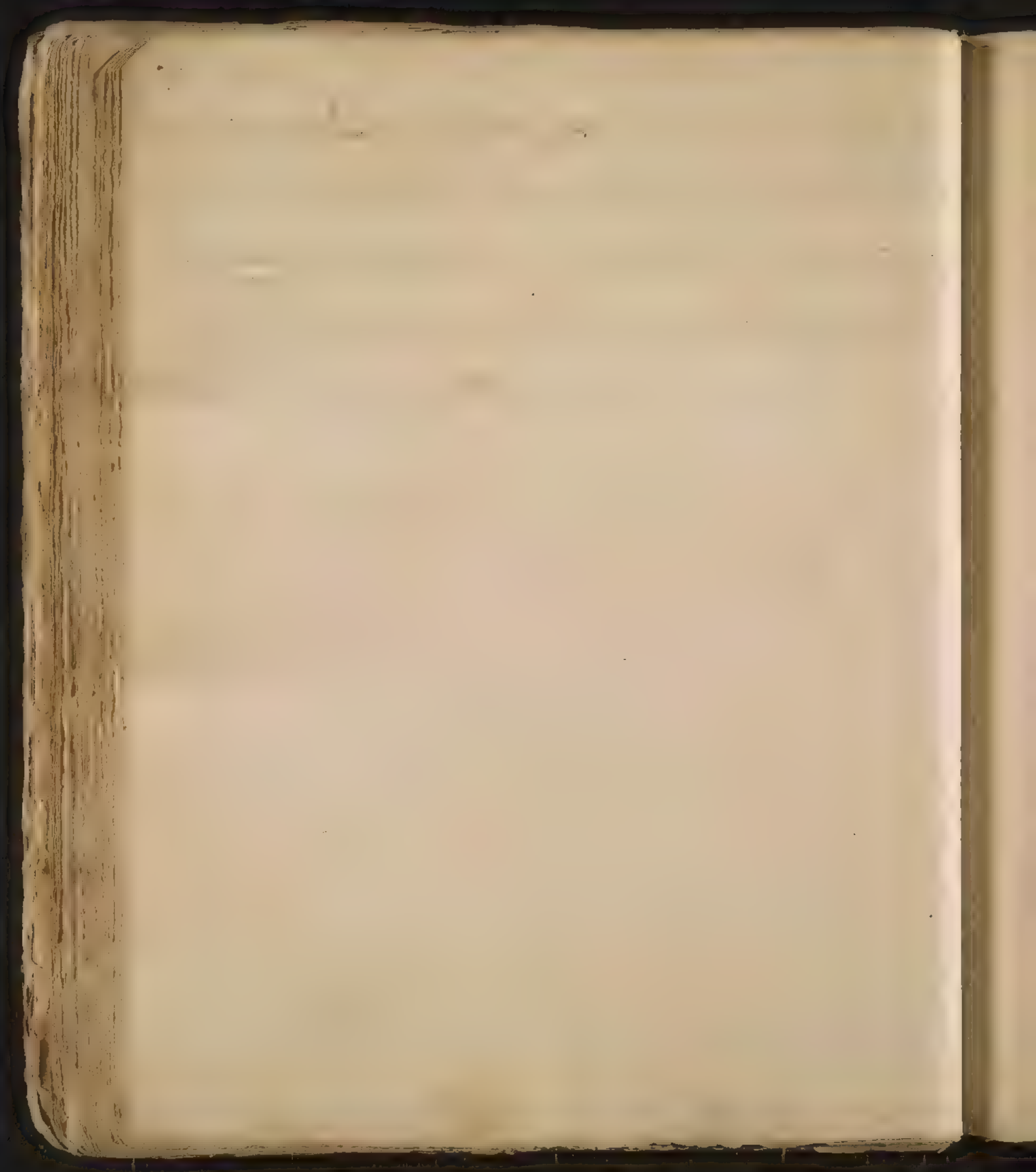


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The Disease is attended with such a Degree of vomiting  
 that Emetics are less necessary, but on <sup>the</sup> contrary  
 antiemetic Remedies are indicated such as  
 Plaster of Venice Treacle applied to <sup>the</sup> Region  
 of the Stomach & plentiful Doses of Riverius mix-  
 ture. —

The use of Blisters in this Disease &c. &c.  
 [return back to page 63<sup>d</sup>].





70





71





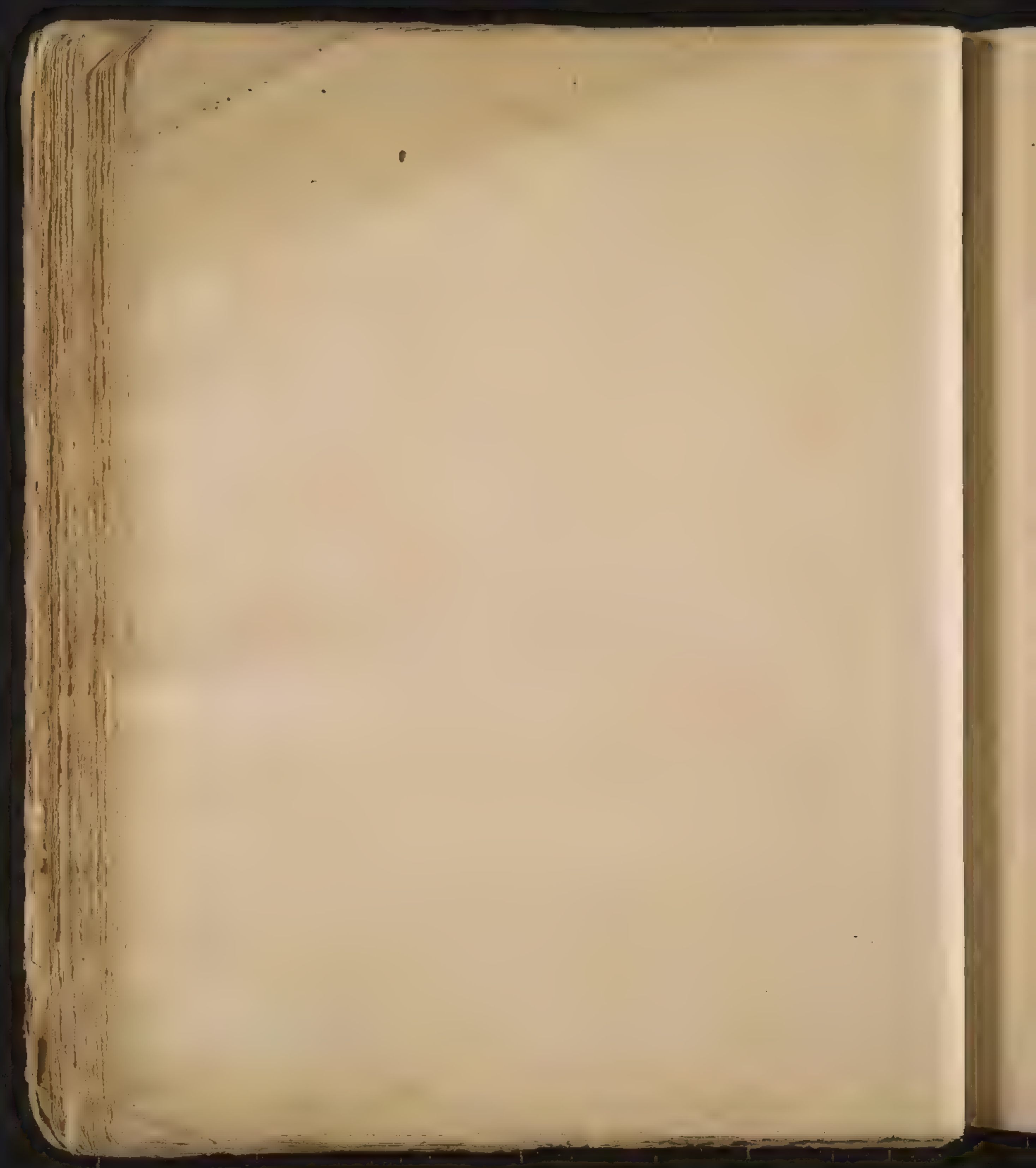












74









